In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A tool for removing a first connector portion having a retraction feature comprising:

a piston assembly having a channel therethrough;

a cross-member slidably receiving said piston assembly, said cross-member having a slot therein, said cross-member having a post head sized to be received within said retraction feature; ~~and~~

a pin positioned within said channel and slidably received within said slot; and wherein said posts comprise a mounting post and a cylindrical portion.

2. (Previously Presented) A tool as recited in claim 1 wherein said piston assembly comprises a piston having a first end and a second end.

3. (Original) A tool as recited in claim 2 wherein said piston assembly has a handle disposed on a first end.

4. (Original) A tool as recited in claim 2 wherein said channel is disposed on a second end.

5. (Original) A tool as recited in claim 2 wherein said piston assembly comprises a grip having an opening therethrough for slidably receiving said piston therethrough.

6. (Original) A tool as recited in claim 5 wherein said piston assembly comprises a spring positioned on said piston between said handle and said grip, said spring urging said handle away from said grip.

7. (Previously Presented) A tool as recited in claim 1 wherein said post comprises a first post and a second post.

8. (Previously Presented) A tool as recited in claim 1 wherein said pin has an angular shape.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A tool for removing a first connector portion having a retraction feature comprising:

a piston having a handle disposed on a first end and a channel disposed on a second end;

a grip having an opening therethrough for slidably receiving said piston;

a spring positioned on said piston between said handle and said grip, said spring urging said handle away from said grip;

a sleeve adjacent to the grip for slidably receiving the piston;

a cross-member adjacent to said sleeve, said cross-member having a slot therein, said cross-member having a post head sized to be received with the retraction feature; ~~and~~

a pin positioned within said channel and slidably received within said slot; and

wherein said posts comprise a mounting post and a cylindrical portion.

11. (Original) A tool as recited in claim 10 wherein said post comprises a first post and a second post.

12. (Original) A tool as recited in claim 10 wherein said pin has an angular shape.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Withdrawn) A method of disconnecting a back shell from a connector housing mounted on a circuit board comprising:

engaging a tool into a retraction feature of a back shell;

biasing outwardly a pair of guide arms from a housing with the tool;

disengaging a snap from a snap opening; and

removing the back shell from a connector with the tool in a motion perpendicular to said circuit board.

15. (Withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 14 wherein the retraction feature is cup shaped.

16. (Withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 14 wherein engaging said tool comprises engaging a post head of a tool in to the retraction feature.

17. (Withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 14 wherein biasing outwardly comprises biasing outwardly using an angular pin coupled to said tool.